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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER

LEMMA, SAMSON B

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2132

DATE MAILED: 03/02/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/982,345

Applicant(s)

BEAN ET AL.

Examiner

Samson B Lemma

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 October 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-29 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-29 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

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1. **Claims 1-29** have been examined.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. **Claims 1-29** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by **Rashmi Bhat**. (hereinafter referred to as **Bhat**) (U.S. Publication No. 2002/0073314 A1). (Filed on Dec 7,2000)

4. **As per claim 1**, Bhat discloses a method of return-to-owner security lockout for a portable electronic device [Figure 2A and 2B, ref. Num “216”] comprising:

- **Displaying return-to-owner information on an interface of the device**

[Figure 2A and 2B, ref. Num “216”] **when a security lockout** [figure 2A and 2B, ref. Num “212”] **disables the device**. [Page 2, ref. Num “0025” and “0026”] (The return-to-owner information is displayed on an interface shown on figure 2A and figure 2B ref. Num “216” when the security lockout shown on figure 2A and 2B, ref. Num “212” disables the devices when it is selected and the user is able to unlock/enable the system by only entering the correct password as shown on figure 2A and 2B, ref. Num “216”)

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5. **As per claim 15, Bhat discloses a method of return-to-owner security lockout for a portable electronic device** [Figure 2A and 2B, ref. Num “216”] **comprising:**

- **Receiving a lockout bypass input from a user;** [Page 2, ref. Num “0025” and “0026”] (a lockout bypass input from a user is the valid password that the user inputs to unlock the system. A lockout bypass input is a valid password as explained on the submitted disclosure by the applicant on page 2, lines 11-12. The security module “116” shown on figure 1, is coupled to the operating system and automatically locks out/disables unauthorized access to the portable electronic devices shown on figure 2A, ref. Num “208” and “210” by receiving username and password information every time the portable electronic devices are started or when the information button shown on figure 2A and 2B, ref. Num “212” is selected) and
- **Comparing the bypass input to a bypass template for the electronic device to determine whether the bypass input is valid,** [Page 2, ref. Num “0025”] (the username and password is required every time electronic devices shown on figure 2A ref. Num “208” and “210” are started. The password is compared with the password which is configured by the owner during initial registration and setup of the electronic devices shown on figure 2A and 2B ref. Num “208” and “210” to determine whether or not it is a valid password.)
- **Wherein either when an invalid bypass input is received or when the bypass input is expected but not received, the electronic device is disabled and return-to-owner information is displayed using an interface of the disabled device,** [Page 2, ref. Num “0025” and ref. Num “0026”] (The security module “116” shown on figure 1, is coupled to the operating system and automatically locks out/disables unauthorized access to the portable electronic devices shown on figure 2A, ref. Num “208” and “210” by requiring username and password information every time the portable electronic

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devices are started or when the information button shown on figure 2A and 2B, ref. Num "212" is selected. The return-to-owner information is displayed on an interface shown on figure 2A and figure 2B ref. Num "216" when the security lockout shown on figure 2A and 2B, ref. Num "212" disables the devices when it is selected and the user is able to unlock/enable the system by only entering the correct password as shown on figure 2A and 2B, ref. Num "216") and **wherein when a valid bypass input is received, the electronic device is enabled for use by the user.** [Figure 2A and Figure 2B, ref. Num "216", "Please enter the PASSCODE to unlock the system"]

6. **As per claims 21-24, Bhat discloses an electronic device** [Figure 1, ref. Num "110"; figure 2, ref. Num "208" and "210"] **having a return-to-owner security lockout** [Figure 2A and figure 2B, ref. Num "216", "Please contact the Owner ..."] **comprising:**

- **A memory;** [Page 2, ref. Num "0024"; page 1, ref. Num "0009"] (hardware microchip or the ownership indicia can be stored locally on the electronic device. As explained on page 1, ref. Num "0009" the invention is for portable computers, PDA, mobile telephones or any **storage based** electronic device to allow ownership identification indicia of the device to easily displayed when the device is lost.)
- **A computer program stored in the memory;** [Page 2, ref. Num "0025"]; [The security module shown on figure 1, ref. Num "116" can be implemented as a software or a firmware device for protecting data located on the electronic device. The software is nothing but a program stored in the memory of the device. The device also has an operating system which is also a program stored in the memory of the device.)
- **A user interface;** [Figure 1, ref. Num "114"; figure 2A and figure 2B, ref. Num "214") and

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- **A controller** [Figure 1, ref. Num “112”; figure 2A and figure 2B, ref. Num “212”] **that executes the computer program and controls the operation of the user interface and the memory**, [Page 2, ref. Num “0025”; ref. Num “0026”] (when the controller or the information button shown on figure 2A and 2B, ref. Num “212” is selected it executes the security module shown on figure 1, ref. Num “116” which is coupled to the operating system and controls the operation of the user interface and the memory by automatically locking out unauthorized access by disabling the electronic devices by requiring the password information and displaying ownership identification on the interface as shown on figure 2A and figure 2B, ref. Num “216”) **wherein the computer program implements instructions that**, [Figure 1, ref. Num “116”; Page 2, ref. Num “0025”][The security module shown on figure 1, ref. Num “116” can be implemented as a software or a firmware device for protecting data located on the electronic device.) **when executed by the controller**, [Figure 1, ref. Num “112”; figure 2A and figure 2B, ref. Num “212”] **display return-to-owner information on the user interface when a security lockout disables the electronic device**. [Page 2, ref. Num “0025”; ref. Num “0026”] (when the controller or the information button shown on figure 2A and 2B, ref. Num “212” is selected it executes the security module shown on figure 1, ref. Num “116” which is coupled to the operating system and controls the operation of the user interface and automatically locking out unauthorized access by disabling the electronic devices by requiring the password information and displaying ownership identification on the interface as shown on figure 2A and figure 2B, ref. Num “216”)

7. **As per claims 2 and 25**, **Bhat** discloses a method of return-to-owner security lockout for a portable electronic device as applied to claims 1 and 21 above. Furthermore **Bhat** discloses the method wherein the step of displaying comprises: **comparing a security lockout**

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bypass input to a security bypass template in the electronic device; [Page 2, ref. Num "0025"] (the username and password is required every time electronic devices shown on figure 2A ref. Num "208" and "210" are started. The password is compared with the password which is configured by the owner during initial registration and setup of the electronic devices shown on figure 2A and 2B ref. Num "208" and "210") and **disabling the electronic device when the security bypass input is invalid, wherein the security bypass input is invalid when it does not correspond to the security bypass template.**[Page 2, ref. Num "0025" and ref. Num "0026"] (The security module "116" shown on figure 1, is coupled to the operating system and automatically locks out/disables unauthorized access to the portable electronic devices shown on figure 2A, ref. Num "208" and "210" by requiring username and password information every time the portable electronic devices are started or when the information button shown on figure 2A and 2B, ref. Num "212" is selected. The return-to-owner information is displayed on an interface shown on figure 2A and figure 2B ref. Num "216" when the security lockout shown on figure 2A and 2B, ref. Num "212" disables the devices when it is selected and the user is able to unlock/enable the system by only entering the correct password as shown on figure 2A and 2B, ref. Num "216" otherwise the device continues to be disabled)

8. **As per claim 3, Bhat** discloses a method of return-to-owner security lockout for a portable electronic device as applied to claim 1 above. Furthermore **Bhat** discloses the method wherein the security lockout disables the device if no security lockout bypass input is received when expected or when the security lockout bypass input is received but does not correspond to a security bypass template stored in the electronic device[Page 2, ref. Num "0025"] (the username and password is required every time electronic devices shown on figure 2A ref. Num "208" and "210" are started. The password is compared with the password which is configured by the owner during initial registration and setup of the electronic devices shown on figure 2A and 2B ref. Num "208" and "210" to determine whether or not it is a valid password. If valid

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input is not received the device continues to be disabled as shown on figure 2A and figure 2B, ref. Num "216" and if the valid input is received the device will be enabled)

9. **As per claims 4,16-18** **Bhat** discloses a method of return-to-owner security lockout for a portable electronic device as applied to claims 2 and 15 above. Furthermore **Bhat** discloses the method the security bypass input is compared during a start-up process of the electronic device, each time the device is switched to an ON state. [Page 2, ref. Num "0025"] (The username and password is required every time electronic devices shown on figure 2A ref. Num "208" and "210" are started/switched to ON state. The password is compared with the password which is configured by the owner during initial registration and setup of the electronic devices shown on figure 2A and 2B ref. Num "208" and "210")

10. **As per claims 5 and 6,** **Bhat** discloses a method of return-to-owner security lockout for a portable electronic device as applied to claims 1 and 4 above. Furthermore **Bhat** discloses the method, wherein the disabled electronic device remains in a start-up mode indefinitely until a valid security lockout bypass enables the device.[Page 2, ref. Num "0025" and "0026"] (The return-to-owner information is displayed on an interface shown on figure 2A and figure 2B ref. Num "216" when the security lockout shown on figure 2A and 2B, 'ref. Num "212" disables the devices when it is selected and the user is able to unlock/enable the system by only entering the correct password as shown on figure 2A and 2B, ref. Num "216" otherwise the device remains in a start-up mode indefinitely until a valid security lockout bypass /password is entered and enables the device as shown on figure 2A and figure 2B, ref. Num "214".)

11. **As per claims 7, 8,9** **Bhat** discloses a method of return-to-owner security lockout for a portable electronic device as applied to claim 1 above. Furthermore **Bhat** discloses the method, further comprising: enabling the electronic device when a valid security lockout bypass is received.[Figure 2A and Figure 2B, ref. Num "216", "Please enter the PASSCODE to unlock the system"]

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12. **As per claims 10 and 11 , Bhat** discloses a method of return-to-owner security lockout for a portable electronic device as applied to claim 2 above. Furthermore **Bhat** discloses the method, wherein the security lockout bypass comprises one or more of a password, a personal identification number (PIN), a fingerprint, a retinal scan, a coded radio frequency or infrared signal, a key, and a key card, the security lockout bypass being unique to an owner or an authorized user of the device. [Figure 2A and Figure 2B, ref. Num “216”, “Please enter the PASSCODE to unlock the system”]

13. **As per claims 12-14 and 26 , Bhat** discloses a method of return-to-owner security lockout for a portable electronic device as applied to claims 1, 11 and 25 above. Furthermore **Bhat** discloses the method, wherein the electronic device is disabled and the return-to-owner information is displayed each time that the security bypass input is invalid. [Figure 2A and 2B, ref. Num “216”; figure 2A and 2B, ref. Num “212” ; Page 2, ref. Num “0025” and “0026”] (The return-to-owner information is displayed on an interface shown on figure 2A and figure 2B ref. Num “216” when the security lockout shown on figure 2A and 2B, ref. Num “212” disables the devices when it is selected and the user is able to unlock/enable the system by only entering the correct password as shown on figure 2A and 2B, ref. Num “216” otherwise the return to owner information continues to be displayed.)

14. **As per claims 19 and 20 , Bhat** discloses a method of return-to-owner security lockout for a portable electronic device as applied to claim 15 above. Furthermore **Bhat** discloses the method, wherein the return-to-owner information comprises one or more of a name for an owner, an address for the owner, a telephone number for the owner, return-to-owner instructions, a device serial number, a name for a lost and found service, an address for the lost and found service, a telephone number for the lost and found service, lost and found service return instructions, return to manufacturer instructions, return to law enforcement

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office instructions, and an informational message. [Figure 2A and figure 2B, ref. Num "216"; Page 2, Num "0026"]

15. **As per claim 27, Bhat** discloses a method of return-to-owner security lockout for a portable electronic device as applied to claim 25 above. Furthermore **Bhat** discloses the method, wherein the bypass template is stored in the memory.[Page 2, ref. Num "0025"] (the username and password is required every time electronic devices shown on figure 2A ref. Num "208" and "210" are started. The password is compared with the password which is configured/stored by the owner during initial registration and setup of the electronic devices shown on figure 2A and 2B ref. Num "208" and "210")

16. **As per claims 28 and 29, Bhat** discloses a method of return-to-owner security lockout for a portable electronic device as applied to claim 25 above. Furthermore **Bhat** discloses the method, wherein the bypass input is received at the user interface.[Figure 2A and Figure 2B, ref. Num "216", "Please enter the PASSCODE to unlock the system"]

Conclusion

17. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.(See PTO-Form 892).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Samson B Lemma whose telephone number is 571-272-3806. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday (8:00 am---4: 30 pm). If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, BARRON JR GILBERTO can be reached on 571-272-3799. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

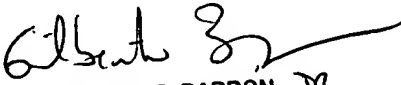
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SAMSON LEMMA

S.L.

02/23/2005


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